and U.K. held in February, 2000, an agreement has been reached to remove the various restrictions earlier applicable on the exercise of traffic rights by Air India beyond London to USA and Canada. According to the new agreement, Air India is entitled to operate 16 frequencies per week either as transits or terminators to London with beyond 5th freedom rights to USA and Canada.

Concession to Senior Citizens by AI

942. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have any proposal under its consideration to allow the senior citizens the concessional air fare in Air India too as in Indian Airlines for their travel abroad on tourist visa; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) All international fares are established only when they are unanimously agreed by all airlines at the Tariff Co-ordination Conferences of International Air Transport Association (IATA) and subsequently approved by all Governments concerned. It is because of lack of agreement amongst airlines that concession in International air fare for senior citizens has not been introduced by any international airline including Air India and Indian Airlines (on international routes). Air India has also competitive market fares for international and domestic travel which are also applicable to the senior citizens.

New International Airport in Mumbai

943. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:
SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to build new International Airport at Revas-Mandava near Mumbai in Maharashtra;